

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 MED-02 DODE-00 SS-15 AID-05 L-02 SCA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7133

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 0203

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, JA

SUBJ: EMBASSY NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES

REF: A. STATE 233133

B. STATE 241812

C. STATE 244393

1. I HAVE ASKED DEA SAIC TO PREPARE A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF NARCOTICS ABUSE, PREVENTION, AND ENFORCEMENT IN THE JAPANESE AND AMERICAN COMMUNITIES IN JAPAN. THIS REPORT HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND IS BEING POUCHED TO S/NM. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT FOLLOW:

2. GNERAL OBSERVATIONS: JAPAN'S TIGHTLY KNIT FAMILY AND COMMUNITY STRUCTURES, HARSH LEGAL PENALTIES EMBODIED IN THE GOJ STIMULANT CONTROL LAW OF 1954 AND AWAKENING DRUG LAW OF 1973, AND VIGOROUS LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS HAVE LIMITED THE GROWTH OF DRUG ABUSE IN JAPANESE SOCIETY IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD. NEVERTHELESS, THE RAPID PROCESS OF URBANIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION IN RECENT DECADES, RESULTING IN SOCIAL ALIENATION AND WEAKENING OF FAMILY TIES PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUTH WITH LEISURE, MONEY AND RECEPTIVITY TO WESTERN LIFE STYLES, ARE NOW PRODUCING A CLIMATE
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MORE CONDUCTIVE TO DRUG ABUSE. JAPANESE UNDERWORLD ELEMENTS

HAVE TURNED INCREASINGLY TO DRUG TRAFFICK AND USE. THE USE OF METHAMPHETAMINE, MOSTLY IMPORTED ILLEGALLY FROM KOREA, HAS BEEN THE MAJOR DRUG PROBLEM FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN RECENT YEARS AND ITS USE IS CURRENTLY INCREASING AMONG JAPANESE. HEROIN, MORPHINE, AND OPIUM, FORMERLY A WIDESPREAD ABUSE PROBLEM, HAVE RECENTLY BECOME DRUGS OF MORE SIGNIFICANT ABUSE. EVIDENCE OF THE PAST SIX MONTHS INDICATES THAT SIZEABLE QUANTITIES OF HEROIN ARE BEING SMUGGLED FROM SE ASIA INTO JAPAN FOR TRANSSHIPMENT TO THE U.S. LOCAL AND FOREIGN-GROWN MARIJUANA AND HASHISH AND LSD ARE INCREASINGLY COMING INTO VOGUE AMONG URBAN YOUTH. HOWEVER, OVERALL, PAINT-THINNER SNIFFING IS STILL THE FOREMOST CAUSE OF DEATH AND INJURY FROM DRUG ABUSE AMONG JAPANESE YOUTH. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT GOJ OFFICIALS MAY NOT BE FULLY AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL DIMENSION OF DRUG PROBLEMS IN JAPAN.

3. US PROBLEM AREAS: U.S. DRUG ABUSE PROBLEMS ARE GREATEST IN OKINAWA AMONG U.S. MILITARY AND DEPENDENTS, BUT DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING (MARIJUANA, HEROIN, AND LSD) HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY APPARENT AROUND U.S. MILITARY BASE AREAS IN THE MAIN ISLANDS OF JAPAN. REGULAR MILITARY SHIP AND AIR RUNS (NOW REDUCED) BETWEEN JAPAN AND SE ASIA HAVE CREATED RELATIVELY SIGNIFICANT SUPPLY OF DRUGS AVAILABLE IN BASE AREAS. THERE HAS BEEN SOME SEEPAGE FROM BASE AREAS INTO THE LARGER AMERICAN COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS TO JAPANESE YOUTHS IN TOKYO, YOKOHAMA, YOKOSUKA AND YOKOTA BASE AREAS. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT AMERICANS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ILLICIT IMPORTATION OF AMPHETIMINES OR METHAMPHETIMINES INTO JAPAN.

4. EMBASSY ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS: EMBASSY EFFORTS TO COUNTER DRUG ABUSE CENTERS IN THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATION COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY THE DCM. THE COMMITTEE, COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ENTIRE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THE MILITARY, MEETS REGULARLY TO DISCUSS PROBLEM AREAS, PROGRESS ON VARIOUS PROJECTS, AND GENERAL DRUG MATTERS. CONTACT IS MAINTAINED WITH THE NON-OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY. THE EMBASSY HAS SPONSORED COMMUNITY MEETINGS WITH LOCAL ANTI-DRUG ABUSE TEAMS AND WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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VISITORS FROM WASHINGTON, INCLUDING DR. JOHN OLSEN, FORMERLY WITH THE WHITE HOUSE DRUG ABUSE GROUP, AND FORMER SENIOR ADVISOR AMBASSADOR HANDLEY.

5. THE EMBASSY IS IN FREQUENT CONTACT WITH THE GOJ, ESPECIALLY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND HEALTH AND WELFARE MINISTRY, ON A WIDE RANGE OF ANTI-DRUG MATTERS, INCLUDING AMENDMENT OF THE U.S.-JAPAN EXTRADITION TREATY TO

INCLUDE NARCOTICS OFFENSES, SPEEDING COURT PROCEDURES IN OKINAWA; THE COLOMBO PLAN; GOJ CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL; MONITORING ACETIC ANHYDRIDE EXPORT; AND JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON DRUGS.

6. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS; IN OUR VIEW, U.S. ANTI-TRAFFICK AND ANTI-DRUG ABUSE EFFORTS IN JAPAN ARE APPROPRIATELY AND REASONABLY EFFECTIVELY DIRECTED. THE AREA OF RECENT INCREASE OF DRUG ABUSE IS PRIMARILY THE JAPANESE COMMUNITY, A DEVELOPMENT FOR WHICH WE BEAR PARTIAL RESPONSIBILITY. WE MUST CONTINUE TO TRY TO IMPRESS ON JAPANESE GOVERNMENTAL CONTACTS THE POTENTIAL DANGERS TO JAPANESE SOCIETY OF DRUG ABUSE AND ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INTER-LOCKING MEANS TO COMBAT JAPAN'S OWN PROBLEM AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG ABUSE PROBLEMS INVOLVING JAPAN AND OUR PEOPLE HERE. TO THIS END, WE SHOULD BRING THE GOJ INTO EVERY POSSIBLE VENUE FOR DISCUSSION OF DURG ABUSE MATTERS. BOTH U.S. MILITARY AND EMBASSY EFFORTS MUST CONTINUE UNABATEDLY TO MONITOR THE DRUG PROBLEM AND IMAGINATIVELY DISCUSS MEANS FOR REDRESSING PROBLEM AREAS. WE BELIEVE THAT ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGMEMENTS NOW IN USE ARE SATISFACTORY FOR THIS TASK. I SHOULD LIKE TO CITE ESPECIALLY THE EFFORTS OF THE DEA FOR THEIR DILIGENCE AND EFFECTIVENES, INCLUDING EFFORTS WITH THE GOJ IN ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACTIVITIES. WITHIN THE EMBASSY COMMUNITY ITSELF, WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT DRUG ABUSE REMAINS AT MINIMAL LEVELS.

6. THE EMBASSY IS SATISFIED WITH SUPPORT FROM WASHINGTON. WE WELCOME VISITORS, SUCH AS THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO EMPLOY THEM IN PROGRAMS FOR THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY. WE ALSO WELCOME AS MUCH INFORMATION AS IS AVAILABLE ON ALL ASPECTS OF DRUG ABUSE.
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